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th: DDA REG. 77

ate: 11/6/78

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

DATE DISTR. 2 April 1948

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Chinese and Korean Communist Order of Battle and NO. OF PAGES 2
Military Information, Tumen Area; Soviet Use of Airfield 25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

1. Chinese Communist units stationed in Tumen (129-49, 42-56) and vicinity consist of signal and sanitation units in the city, and artillery and infantry units outside of the city.
2. The signal unit, which is designated as the YANG (楊) Signal Unit, is quartered in the Broadcasting Bureau Building and other buildings formerly used by the Japanese Army signal units. A small number of signal troops are billeted in the former Japanese grade school. The unit, which consists of 200 men, was formerly attached to the puppet Manchukuo Army. Soviet officers supervise the unit's activities. The unit maintains communications with Vladivostok, Harbin and Pyongyang. It also monitors and intercepts Nationalist military messages originating in Changchun and Mukden.
3. The sanitation unit is stationed in the former Japanese field hospital, which is now called the Rear Echelon Hospital. The unit is organized around a nucleus of former Japanese army doctors and medical personnel of the puppet Manchukuo Army. Almost fifty per cent of the patients are troops from the Korean Volunteer Army; of the 580 patients in October, 246 were Korean. Most of the patients are soldiers recuperating from wounds received during the Communist fifth and sixth offensives.
4. The artillery unit, which is just outside of the city, is a training unit that arrived from the Mutanchiang (129-37, 44-35) area in September 1947. The unit, commanded by KIM Kwang-won (金光源), has a strength of 450 officers and men. The artillery training equipment consists of: (1) Two Soviet horse-drawn howitzers, model 1909; (2) four Soviet 7.6 mm anti-aircraft guns, model 1931; (3) six Japanese anti-aircraft guns. Regularly scheduled training for artillery units is conducted in Tumen by the Training Department of the Communist Army Artillery Group.
Note: It is not clear whether the artillery unit stationed near the city is subordinate to this Training Department or if they are two independent units.
5. The infantry division to the west of Tumen is called the 102 Youth Division and is commanded by CHIN Hua-min (董華民). It is composed of 3,000 officers and men, most of whom are in their early twenties and have had considerable combat experience. The unit is completely equipped with small arms; it also has fifteen Japanese regimental pieces and twelve Japanese battalion guns.

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6. The most important military installations in and around Tumen are the weather observation station and the airfield.
7. The construction of a weather station at the south end of Tumen was started in October 1947. The location was guarded by Soviet engineer troops. The frames were completed by November when activities ceased for the winter; construction work will be resumed after the spring thaw. The reinforced concrete building is three stories high.
The building covers five-sixths of an acre.
A member of the staff of the Soviet Far Eastern Air Group inspected the construction.
8. In September 1947 the former Japanese airfield just west of Tumen was enlarged to facilitate the handling of air transportation from Vladivostok, Pyongyang and Chongju (125-12, 39-42). An average of two flights a week are made to the field. Troops of the 85 Air Corps Material Depot of the Soviet North Korean Air Unit are stationed at the field. The runway is 1,000 meters long and the field has a hangar, two warehouses, two repair depots and two barracks.
- Note: [] the runway of the Tumen airfield was 600 meters long and 40 meters wide. [] there was no room for expansion of the airfield because it is surrounded by mountains and hazardous air currents prevail.)
9. Tumen is the transit center for Korean Volunteer Army troops moving to and from Manchuria and North Korea. Troops recruited in Chongju and Pyongyang who are being moved to Kutanchiang are brought through Tumen; when Korean troops are moved from Kutanchiang to Unggi (130-20, 42-20) and Najin-dong (130-15, 42-10) they go through Tumen.
10. The Korean Volunteer Army in (?passing through) Tumen is organized as follows: A unit, usually consisting of 1,000 men, is composed of two or three battalions; a battalion comprises two or three companies; a company is usually made up of three platoons. The majority of the Korean troops received their basic training under the Japanese and are therefore familiar with the Japanese arms with which they are equipped. These arms are in poor condition.

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